

RX

Drug Name: Amiodarone

Trade Name: Cordarone, Pacerone

Class:

- Class III antidysrhythmic.

Mechanism of Action:

- Prolongs duration of the action potential.
- Prolongs effective refractory period.
- Non-competitively inhibits alpha & beta receptors and possesses vagolytic & calcium channel blocking properties.
- Negative dromotrope, chronotrope, & vasodilator.

Indications:

- Pulseless ventricular tachycardia (VT) and ventricular fibrillation (VF).
- Ventricular tachycardia (VT) with a pulse.

Contraindications:

- Pulmonary Congestion
- Cardiogenic Shock
- Amiodarone Sensitivity
- Bradycardia
- Procainamide use
- TCA Overdose

Precaution:

- Hypotension
- Heart failure
- Long QT syndrome

Dosage:

Adults:

Pulseless VT/VF:

- 300 mg IV/IO initial dose, consider repeat dose of 150 mg 3-5 minutes after initial dose.

Wide Complex Tachycardia:

- 150 mg IV infusion over 10 minutes. May repeat every 10 minutes as needed. Mix 150 mg in 20cc NS in a buretrol and drip at a rate of 120 gtts/min.

Pediatrics:

Pulseless VT/VF:

- 5 mg/kg IV/IO. May repeat doses up to 15 mg/kg (max dose of 300 mg).

Wide Complex Tachycardia:

- 5 mg/kg IV/IO over 20-60 min. May repeat doses up to 15 mg/kg (max dose of 300 mg).

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Side Effects:

- Hypotension
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Bradycardia
- AV nodal conduction abnormalities
- QT prolongation
- Flushing
- Salivation

Interactions:

- Potentiates bradycardia and hypotension with calcium channel blockers and beta blockers.
- Increases risk of AV nodal blockade with calcium channel blockers.
- May increase anticoagulation effects of Warfarin.
- May increase serum levels of Phenyton, Procainamide, Quinidine, and Theophyllines.
- Should not be used with other medications which prolong the QT interval.
- Should not run through the same IV line in which Sodium Bicarb or Furosemide have been used.

Precautions:

- Rapid infusion may lead to hypotension.
- Terminal elimination is extremely long (half-life lasts up to 40 days).